

WASHINGTON.

Invention of a New System of Torpedoes for Harbor Defences.

A report received at the Treasury Department states that the revenue steamer *Moscow*, Captain Hodgson, on the evening of the 11th inst. sailed off from Leighton's Lodge, in Cobcook River, Maine, and towed to sea anchor below Pembroke, the schooner *Bertha* J. Fellows, from Whiting for New York, with a cargo of lumber. The vessel was badly strained and waterlogged.

THE MEXICAN CLAIMS COMMISSION.

The Chief Causes of Steamboat Disasters Explained by the Board of Supervising Inspectors.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 19, 1872.
The War Department has information of a new and in some respects peculiar system of harbor and coast defence invented by E. O. Rudbeck, a Swedish engineer. It is claimed for it that it offers no obstruction to trade and is free from danger to vessels engaged in defence. It consists of a system of torpedo towers for the outer harbor and of vertically ascending torpedoes and bottom mines for the inner channels. The torpedo towers are cylindrical, with conical or cupola-shaped roofs, and they rest upon piers, masonry or the natural bottom according to circumstances. They are invisible to the enemy, their upper surfaces being several feet under the water. The towers consist of several stories, and the torpedoes are arranged in each story and are projected horizontally by a spring, electro-magnetism or any motive power. The centre of the tower a vertical channel affords communication between the several stories. The officers charged with the defence are stationed in casemates ranged on the side of the harbor. Electric cables are laid from each casemate to the towers, and on the approach of an enemy's vessel the angle which its course makes with a line drawn from the casemate to the tower is telegraphed to the officer in the latter. This determines which of the torpedoes shall be projected. The embrasures of the towers are protected by shutters, which are arranged as to open the moment the torpedo is projected and to close again immediately afterwards. The electro-magnetic machinery is said to be very simple. Where it is necessary to use mines it has been shown by several experiments that a very small quantity of dynamite is necessary to sink an iron-clad, when exploded within three feet of the vessel's side.

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INTERNAL REVENUE RECEIPTS.

To-day.....\$3,497,408
For the month.....\$381,907
For the fiscal year to date.....\$41,263,329
National bank notes outstanding.....\$29,329,329

BALANCE IN THE TREASURY.

The balances in the Treasury of the United States at the close of business to-day were as follows:—
Currency, \$4,936,900 79.
Coin, \$76,907,635 05, including \$23,451,000 in coin certificates.
Special deposit of legal tenders for the redemption of certificates of deposit, \$22,485,000.

A NEW NATIONAL BANK STARTED.

The Crocker National Bank of Turner's Falls, Mass., capital \$100,000, was to-day authorized by the Comptroller of the Currency to commence business.

Paying Internal Revenue Gaugers.

The pay of internal revenue gaugers for August has been necessarily delayed until a system for the adjustment of their accounts could be perfected by the department. They having been paid for drafts will be forwarded to gaugers early next week.

INTERNAL REVENUE APPOINTMENTS BY THE PRESIDENT.

The President to-day appointed E. P. Hatch Collector of Internal Revenue for the Third District of Mississippi, vice Howe, resigned, and Frederick C. Lord Assessor of Internal Revenue for Nevada, vice Mills, resigned.

STORING MARBLE OUTDOORS.

The Secretary of the Treasury to-day decided that open yards may be used for the storage of marble in bond, in blocks not weighing less than a thousand pounds each.

BARLOW BREAKS GROUND.

He answers the Times Succinctly—He says that Every Charge Against Him is an Invention and Adversity to Him.

THE MEXICAN CLAIMS COMMISSION.

The statement in the Herald of October 7, that a new Commissioner would be appointed by the Mexican government in the place of Mr. Guzman on the Joint Claims Commission, is likely to be confirmed at a very early day. It is well known that there is no time to be lost; for, unless an extension of time is further agreed upon between the two governments, the Commission expires on February 1, 1873. As will be remembered, the difficulty arose in respect of what is known as the "Indian degradation" cases—nearly four hundred in number—and that both Mr. Wadsworth, the Commissioner of the United States, and Mr. Ashton, the agent, contended that the action of Mr. Guzman was an attempt to take an unfair advantage of an act of courtesy. Mr. Guzman, however, insisted that the assent to his examining the papers in those cases was equivalent to rescinding the order referring them to the umpire, notwithstanding the order was made in May and the arguments had been submitted some time before he had taken his seat as Commissioner. There is reason to believe that Mr. Palacio, the late Commissioner on the part of Mexico, did not in any respect agree with the assertions of Mr. Guzman, and that he advised his government of the irregularity of the proceedings. Some facts have just come to light which show the ground taken by the United States in the matter, and of interest. It is held, in the first place, that Mr. Guzman had no authority whatever to interfere with the regular proceedings of the Commission at a date before his duties as Commissioner had begun, and that his action was a violation of the treaty and unbecoming in his character as Commissioner. He had, in fact, undertaken to say what claims should be made or not made, and to nullify an order of the Commission made at an official session, and in the due form of its proceedings, at a time preceding his entry on duty as Commissioner. He had in this way made himself an obstacle to carrying out the provisions of the treaty, and either a change must be made or the treaty fall. Unless the Mexican government meets the disapproval of his conduct by superseding him by a more acceptable officer the treaty cannot be carried out, and it could be useless to entertain any proposition for an extension of time to adjust the claims between the two countries. Mr. Guzman by his conduct had virtually ceased to act, and if it was desired to appoint a new Commissioner in his place, the appointment could be made under the treaty upon that ground. It is understood that these views were communicated to the Minister of the United States at Mexico, and that directions were given to insist upon the appointment of a successor to Mr. Guzman without delay, unless there was an evident intention on the part of the Mexican government not to go further in the settlement of the claims. There is no doubt, however, that Minister Nelson, now returning from Mexico, has brought with him assurance that an acceptable officer will be named in Mr. Guzman's place, and that the Mexican government will not only assent to but request an extension of the time now fixed as the expiration of the Commission.

THE CAPTURED FLAG OF THE CUBAN REBELS.

The Treasury Department received to-day by express the Cuban flag, taken from the private *Pioneer*, and forwarded by the captain of the *Mocasin*, which captured the Cuban vessel. The flag is composed of five alternates of bars of white and dark blue, with a white star in a red triangular-shaped ground of white material.

THE REVENUE MARINE EXAMINATION BOARD.

A Board has been ordered by the Secretary of the Treasury to convene in this city on the 9th of November for the examination of officers of the revenue marine service for promotion, and of candi-

NEW YORK HERALD, SUNDAY, OCTOBER 20, 1872. QUADRUPLE SHEET.

SHIPPING NEWS.

WHITESTONE TELEGRAPH.

The New York Herald has constructed a telegraph line from New York City to Whitestone, L. I., and the same is now open for the transaction of business.

BUSINESS MESSAGES.

The following rates have been established:—
Private messages, twenty cents for ten words or less, two cents for every additional word.
Business messages—for a message of twenty words or less, to be delivered on board vessels of Whitestone, one dollar; five cents for every additional word.
Advertisements for New York Herald free.

ALMANAC FOR NEW YORK—THIS DAY.

SUN AND MOON. HIGH WATER. SUN RISES.....6 17. SUN SETS.....4 53. MOON RISES.....5 13. MOON SETS.....11 28.

OCEAN STEAMERS.

DATES OF DEPARTURE FROM NEW YORK FOR THE MONTHS OF OCTOBER AND NOVEMBER.

Steamers.	Sails.	Destinations.	Office.
Wyoming	Oct. 23.	Liverpool.	29 Broadway.
Delaware	Oct. 24.	Baltimore.	15 Broadway.
City of New York	Oct. 24.	Liverpool.	15 Broadway.
Silene	Oct. 24.	Baltimore.	15 Broadway.
Baltimore	Oct. 24.	Baltimore.	15 Broadway.
City of Brooklyn	Oct. 26.	Liverpool.	15 Broadway.
Delaware	Oct. 26.	Baltimore.	15 Broadway.
America	Oct. 26.	Baltimore.	15 Broadway.
Trinidad	Oct. 26.	Baltimore.	15 Broadway.
City of Baltimore	Oct. 26.	Baltimore.	15 Broadway.
City of Montreal	Oct. 26.	Baltimore.	15 Broadway.
Atlantic	Oct. 26.	Baltimore.	15 Broadway.
Herman	Oct. 26.	Baltimore.	15 Broadway.
Washington	Oct. 26.	Baltimore.	15 Broadway.

PORT OF NEW YORK, OCT. 19, 1872.

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Steamship Andros (Br), McDonough, Glasgow—Henderson Bros.

Steamship Waver (Br), Willinger, Bremen via Southampton—Oelrichs & Co.

Steamship Ville de Paris (Fr), Surmont, Havre, 40—Geo. Mackay & Co.

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Steamship Champion, Lockwood, Charleston—H. R. Morris.

Steamship Zodiac, Chapin, Morehead City, NC—Murray, Ferris & Co.

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